

82, Brigade Maintenance Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 473rd Support Battalion, 30th Separate Armored Brigade; Mar 82–Jan 84, Executive Officer, HHD, 473rd Support Bn, 30th Separate Armored Bde; Feb 84–Feb 85, Automatic Data Processing Systems Officer, HHD, 473rd Support Bn, 30th Sep Armored Bde; Mar 85–Apr 85, Transportation Staff Officer, HQ, State Area Command, Tennessee Army National Guard; May 85–Oct 86, Supply Staff Officer, Headquarters, State Area Command, Tennessee Army National Guard; Oct 86–Mar 90, Battalion Commander, 4th Battalion, 117th Infantry, 30th Separate Armored Brigade; Mar 90–Jul 93, Intelligence Officer, Headquarters, State Area Command, Tennessee Army National Guard; Aug 93–Apr 95, Deputy Director, Plans, Operations and Training Division, Headquarters, State Area Command, Tennessee Army National Guard; 26 Apr 95–Present, The Adjutant General, Tennessee National Guard.

Major General Wood has been honored numerous times by his peers and by the United States Government for outstanding service. These awards and decorations include: the Meritorious Service Medal; the Army Commendation Medal; the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal with 1 Silver Oak Leaf Cluster; the National Defense Service Medal with 1 Silver Star; the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with gold hour glass devices; the Army Service Ribbon; and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon with "60" device.

May General Wood continue to prosper in all of his future endeavors and may he be richly blessed for his courage, dedication, patriotism, and service to Tennessee and to the United States of America.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2002*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 342, 343 and 344, I was inadvertently detained. I would have voted "nay" on No. 342, and "yea" on Nos. 343 and 344.

##### FRED WORTH

##### HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 25, 2002*

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent and friend, Fred Worth of Troy, Ohio, on the occasion of his 50th birthday on July 26, 2002.

Fred began his life of public service as a high school government and history teacher, and baseball coach. His enthusiasm for these subjects along with his dedication to his students have combined to make Fred Worth's 26 years as a public school teacher a success.

Fred's teaching methods have never been confined to the classroom. Fred and his students organize fundraising drives to provide Thanksgiving meals to families that are less

fortunate, and to purchase Christmas gifts for the children of these families. When the Ohio River flooded in 1997, Fred and his students traveled down to Hamilton County and assisted the local residents in the clean up of their flooded homes and businesses. Every election year, Fred makes sure that all of his eligible students are registered to vote, and also have the opportunity to volunteer for the campaigns of local candidates. And, twice a year, Fred arranges a trip to Washington, D.C., so that his students can meet their Congressman and see firsthand how their Federal Government works. Fred's commitment to providing his students with the opportunity and knowledge necessary for success has endeared him to two generations of young men and women who call Miami East High School their alma mater.

Also, Fred leads his students by example, and has been an active participant in all levels of government in Miami County. Every Republican candidate who has run in Miami County in the last 20 years has benefited from Fred's hard work. Whether distributing campaign literature, putting up yard signs, or serving as Chairman of the County Board of Elections, Fred has always dedicated his time and resources to local candidates and the Miami County G.O.P. owes him a great debt of gratitude. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Fred Worth's career of public service, and to wish him a happy 50th birthday.

#### NURSE REINVESTMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

##### HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 22, 2002*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, as the sponsor of H.R. 3487, I would like to revise and extend my remarks in support of passage of H.R. 3487, and I would like to note that this intent language is supported by all the members involved in reaching agreement on the final bill which passed the House and Senate on July 22, 2002. These members include myself, Senator BARBARA A. MIKULSKI, Congresswoman LOIS CAPPS, Senator TIM HUTCHINSON, Congressman W.J. "BILLY" TAUZIN, Senator JOHN F. KERRY, Congressman JOHN D. DINGELL, Senator JAMES M. JEFFORDS, Congressman RICHARD BURR, Senator JUDD GREGG, Congressman SHERROD BROWN, Senator BILL FRIST, M.D., Congressman ED WHITFIELD, Senator EDWARD M. KENNEDY, Congressman ELIOT ENGEL, Senator SUSAN COLLINS, Congressman ROBERT L. EHRlich, Senator HILARY RODHAM CLINTON, and Congressman HENRY WAXMAN.

#### 1. FUNDING METHODOLOGY

During the last reauthorization of Title VIII in 1998, Congress required the Secretary of Health and Human Services to determine a funding methodology to be used for fiscal year 2003 and thereafter to determine the appropriate amounts to be allocated to three important programs within the Nursing Workforce Development activities—advanced nursing education, workforce diversity, and nurse education and practice. In developing this methodology, Congress outlined a series of factors that should be considered and required a report describing the new methodology as well

as the effects of the new methodology on the current allocations between those three important programs.

Given that the new funding methodology was to take effect in fiscal year 2003, Congress requested that the contract for the funding methodology be completed by February 1, 2002, and that the report to Congress regarding that methodology arrive no later than 30 days after the completion of the development of the methodology. Although Congress has not yet received the report, George Mason University has been working on this contract, and they have described the appropriate funding methodology on their website. This methodology states that advanced nursing education should receive 31.5% of the funds (a 46% decrease from fiscal year 2001 allocations), workforce diversity should receive 31.5% of the funds (a 25% increase over fiscal year 2001 allocations), and nurse education and practice should receive 37% of the funds (a 20% increase over fiscal year 2001 allocations).

Because Congress expected the funding methodology to be completed by the beginning of fiscal year 2003, current law does not state how the funds should be allocated if no funding methodology was available. Therefore, the discretion is left to the Secretary. Due to that discretion, it is the Congress' intent that the Secretary allocate funds in a manner that would most appropriately address any current or impending nursing shortage while minimizing disruption and report such allocations to the appropriate committees of Congress, along with a justification for those allocations. Further, given that Congress has requested a new funding methodology for fiscal year 2003, the Secretary is now requested to provide an update on the development of that methodology and the expected timeline for implementation.

#### II. AUTHORIZATIONS UNDER THE NURSE REINVESTMENT ACT

Throughout the bill, the legislation authorizes the appropriation of such sums as may be necessary to accomplish the objectives of the legislation. It is the Congress' belief that the current nursing shortage is a significant national problem that has a major negative impact on the delivery of high-quality health care in the United States. It is the Congress' belief that funds should be appropriated for the initiatives authorized by this legislation at a level that is commensurate with the significance of this problem.

The legislation authorizes the appropriations of such sums as may be necessary in order to accomplish the objectives of the legislation to allow flexibility in providing funding to respond to the ongoing needs of the programs authorized by the legislation. Although the legislation does not authorize the appropriation of specific dollar amounts, it is the Congress' belief that the investment of significant new resources, beyond those already provided under Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act, will be required in order to alleviate the current nursing shortage.

#### III. LOAN REPAYMENT AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The Congress intends that nurses fulfilling their service requirement under the Loan Repayment Program or the Scholarship Program under Section 846 be able to fulfill their service requirement in a nurse-managed health center with a critical shortage of nurses.

The Congress further intends that, in determining the placement of nurses under section